

MARGARET WERTHEIM, CO-CREATOR OF
THE CROCHET CORALREEF PROJECT



PUBLIC
LECTURE

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CORALS, CARBON & THE COSMOS: THE STORY OF HYPERBOLIC SPACE



Margaret Wertheim, Science writer & exhibition curator

WHILE NATURE HAS BEEN PLAYING WITH PERMUTATIONS of hyperbolic space for hundreds of millions of years—in corals, cactuses, sea-slugs and lettuce leaves—human mathematicians spent centuries trying to prove that such forms were impossible. Science writer and exhibition curator Margaret Wertheim discusses

the wondrously interweaving, multi-faceted story of hyperbolic space. How are hyperbolic forms manifest in nature, technology and art? And what might we learn about alternative possibilities for being in the world from a mathematical aberration that redefined our concept of parallel lines.



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